

Atlanta Ham

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

MARCH 2003

AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT REINTRODUCED IN US HOUSE

Source: ARRL Letter Feb 21, 2003

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act has again been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure is an ARRL legislative initiative. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis put the latest version of the bill, HR 713, into the legislative hopper on February 12. It has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. When last introduced in 2001, the measure was known as HR 817.

The House bill already has two co-sponsors, Reps John Boozman, Arkansas, and Patrick Tiberi, Ohio. Both cosponsored last year's bill.

HR 713 is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Flor-

ida Republican, has twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation. A Senate version of the bill is pending.

The measure would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement

spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such

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NOGAQRP Event a Success!

Source: www.nogaqrp.org

The 2003 "Freeze Your Buns Off"

Only 2 things happened to detract from this fun event:

1. It conflicted with the Dalton Ham-fest
2. The temperature was 70 degrees F. (doncha know it was 38 degrees the next morning..!)

Otherwise, FYBO 2003 was another smashing, fun, NoGaTiMe.

Thanks to Tom, K4TJD, for hosting this event this year. Tom provided his deck at his lake chateau for our operating convenience. A total of 5 intrepid, semi-serious contest oriented NoGaNaughts showed up to represent our sterling crew.

Our operators par excellence' were: Tom, K4TJD, Pickett, AD4S, John, AB4GK, Joe, W4JHR and Jack, K5FSE. Everyone got a chance to

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GA Tech Club hosts Doug Smith, KF6DX

The Georgia Tech Amateur Radio Club will be hosting Doug Smith KF6DX on March 10 at 7pm in the Old Architecture Building on campus. For more information, please see <http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/w4aq/>. The general public is invited.

Here is a brief release, which can also be found on our website.

Doug Smith, KF6DX, will speak on the latest in digital-voice and software-radio technology in Amateur Radio. Doug was one half of the world's first transatlantic digital voice contact on the HF ham bands in November of last year. He will describe some of the history

of digital voice modes, advantages and disadvantages, and what digital voice and multimedia communications bode for the future of ham radio. A live demonstration will be included.

Doug will also discuss burgeoning developments on the software-radio front, including current projects to put affordable software radios into the hands of Amateur Radio operators and experimenters. He will go lightly into some technical details of state-of-the-art hardware designs and DSP algorithms, including those of the new Ten-Tec Orion and various digital direction-conversion transceivers.

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THE ATLANTA HAM

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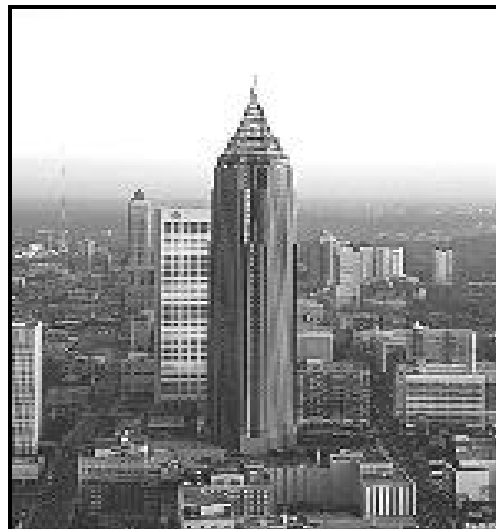
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THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a Saturday event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment.



Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.82(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). On the web, go to <http://www.saf.com/arc/repeater.pdf> for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of our system.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate two repeaters on 145.35(-) & 444.45 (+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Dennis, KF4MHW. For pictures of that site, see <http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html>

The current schedule for net operations include the Sunday Night Net on 146.820 (Linked to 145.35 on FOX) at 8PM EST and the Southeastern VHF Net on Wednesday evenings at 9PM. The 146.820 machine can also be dialed into IRLP and SKYWARN/Peachtree City during inclement weather.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



MEETING NOTICE

WHEN:

Thursday March 6, 2003
7:30PM

WHERE:

Red Cross 1955 Monroe Drive –
Atlanta

PROGRAM: See below

TALK IN:

146.820 (-) PL 146.2

DINNER:

6:15PM The Picadilly Cafeteria
1544 Piedmont Rd – Ansley Mall



The Atlanta Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. BOX 720398
Atlanta, Georgia, 30358

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Membership
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John Talipsky Sr, KI4Y

Newsletter
678-985-1316
john@talipsky.com

March Program Notes... Penn, K4PE

For our March 6 meeting we have scheduled Larry Wade, with the USDA Forrest Service. Larry is the Southern Region Deputy Director of Information Technology - which includes radio. His background is mostly radio oriented from his conversations with Dennis.

He is planning on bringing two of their field guys with him. He will be discussing Forrest service communications in general, and then specifically addressing amateur involvement.

According to Dennis, he is interested in establishing local amateur points of contact. Please extend a specific invitation any ARES groups that you are aware of: North Fulton, Cherokee, Gwinnet, and any other county with significant federal land holdings.

73's Penn, K4PE

AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT REINTRODUCED IN US

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bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

The 2001 version of the measure attracted 53 cosponsors in the House but last spring became one of many pieces of legislation caught up in the so-called "Enron logjam," during which the Internet and Telecommunications Subcommittee did not meet, although its full committee, Energy and Commerce, held numerous hearings concerning Enron.

The ARRL is urging members of the Amateur Radio community to contact their representatives in Congress and request that they cosponsor HR 713.

Experience has shown that, while most members of Congress understand and appreciate the benefits of Amateur Radio, some may be reluctant to sign onto a technical piece of legislation without some indication of support from their own constituents. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site.

The text of HR 713 is available via the Thomas Web site <<http://thomas.loc.gov/>>. Enter "HR713" in the "Bill Number" window. ARRL asks that members soliciting their members of Congress to cosponsor this legislation to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail to specbill03@arrrl.org.

GA Tech Club...

(Continued from page 1)

Doug Smith has 25 years experience designing communications equipment for commercial, military and Amateur Radio markets. His work has included control systems, DSP, frequency synthesis and speech compression. Doug chairs the ARRL Digital Voice and Software Radio Working Groups, but is perhaps best known as Editor of QEX: Forum for Communications Experimenters, the bimonthly technical magazine of the ARRL. He is the author of dozens of articles, the DSP chapter in recent editions of The ARRL Handbook, and of Digital Signal Processing Technology: Essentials of the Communications Revolution, published late in 2001. Doug was educated at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA. He received the 1998 Doug DeMaw Technical Excellence Award for his writing. 73, David

David Ziskind, KE4QLH Emergency Coordinator - North Fulton County (Georgia) ARES Webpage: <http://www.fultonares.org> Communications Director, Georgia Games Communications Director, Peachtree Road Race and Atlanta Marathon

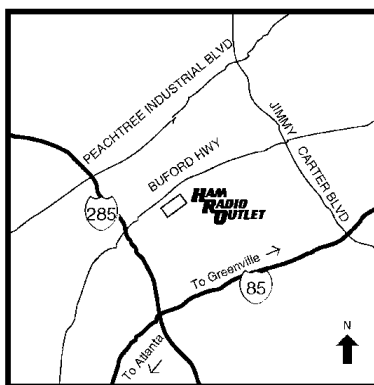


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METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

First Sunday WCARS VEC
2:00 PM (Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs Road, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Thursday – EVEN # MONTHS 7:00 PM
Fayette County Repeater Assn, ARRL VEC
Peachtree City Library, downstairs
Ed Ferguson, N4YTR (edferg@peoplepc.com)

Second Tuesday 7:00 PM
Walton EMC Building
3645 Lenora Church Road, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA (770)498-7759

Second SaturdayCA VEC 8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain Street, Stone Mountain
Hal Martin, K14RD (770)978-9160

Second Saturday – ODD # MONTHS 10:00 AM
Fayette County Repeater Assn, ARRL VEC
Peachtree City Library, downstairs
Jan Dubroca (770 502-0760) jan.dubroca@delta-air.com

Third SaturdayCA VEC 9:00 AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305
56 Whitlock Avenue, Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ (770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770)942-6466

Fourth FridayW5YI VEC 7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road, Lilburn
Headphones provided
Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362

Fouth Sunday ARRL VEC 2:30 p.m
Georgia Tech - Student Center
350 Ferst Drive, NW
Atlanta, GA 30332-0458
David Ziskind KE4QLH - 404-966-6864, ke4qlh@arrl.net

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2003

Always the 4th Saturday!
STARS – December, 12pm – 3pm SCITREK
Contact Penn. K4PE

UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeastern VHF Conference
Southeastern VHF Society
<http://www.svhfs.org>
Huntsville, AL
25-26 Apr 2003

Cherokee Capital ARS
<http://www.qsl.net/k4woc>
26 Apr 2003

Alabama State Convention
Birmingham ARC
<http://www.w4cue.com>
3-4 May 2003

Georgia State Convention
Atlanta Radio Club
<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>
7 Jun 2003

DeKalb County ARC
<http://www.dekalbamateurradio.com>
Fort Payne, AL
14 Jun 2003

Southeastern Division Convention
Lanierland ARC
<http://www.lanierlandarc.org/hamfest.htm>
12 Jul 2003

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**THIS SPACE WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE
TO ADVERTISE!**

Contact the editor: John K14Y

NEWS AND NOTES...

Special Event Stations for March 2003

Macon, GA: Macon Amateur Radio Club, W4BKM. 1500Z-2200Z
Mar 22. 21st Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. 14.240 21.335 7.055
14.055. Certificate. Macon ARC, PO Box 4862, Macon, GA 31208.

Chesapeake, VA: Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service, W4CAR.
1500Z-2100Z Mar 8. 141st Anniversary Battle of Hampton Roads
Montitor-Merrimac Fight. 28.362 21.362 7.62 146.82. QSL. W4CAR,
PO Box 6867, Chesapeake, VA 23323.

ARRL EXPRESSES CONCERNS ABOUT HAM RADIO IMPACT OF 70-CM CHANGES

Source: ARRL Letter February 28, 2003

The ARRL says two FCC-proposed actions could negatively affect Amateur Radio. One would substantially expand the geographical area in the US subject to power limitations on 70 cm. The other would deploy National Weather Service wind-profiler radars in the 448-450 MHz segment.

"The Commission has proposed two actions that have a potentially substantial adverse impact on a large number of Amateur Radio operators in this proceeding," the ARRL said in comments filed this month in ET Docket 02-305. "In each case, the Commission can minimize that impact."

In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) late last fall, the FCC proposed on behalf of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to--among other things--more than double the size of the geographical area in New Mexico and Texas where amateurs in the 420-450 MHz band would be limited in power to protect military radiolocation service operations. Amateur transmitters in certain geographical areas already are limited to 50 W PEP "unless expressly authorized by the FCC after mutual agreement, on a case-by-case basis" between the FCC district director and the applicable military frequency coordinator--§97.313(f). The NPRM also reflects action by NTIA specifying the operation of federal government wind profilers in the band 448-450 MHz.

Acknowledging that the Amateur Service is secondary to government services in the band, the ARRL nonetheless asked the FCC to ensure that the affected zone in Texas and New Mexico "is minimized as much as possible, consistent with protection of military

4L4FN leaving North Korea

4L4FN leaving North Korea: Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN, the first amateur to operate extensively from North Korea and to earn DXCC from that entity, will leave for his next duty assignment March 1. Last fall, after about one year of operation, Giorgadze--an employee of the United Nations World Food Program who had been operating as P5/4L4FN from Pyongyang--was ordered off the air by North Korean authorities. The ARRL accredited SSB

and RTTY operation of P5/4L4FN for DXCC, and Giorgadze himself earned a mixed DXCC Award during his stay. As of the end of his operation last November 22, P5/4L4FN had logged a total of 16,194 QSOs (12,170 unique call signs) that included 167 DXCC entities worked. More information on P5/4L4FN is available on the AMSAT Net Web site www.amsatnet.com of QSL Manager Bruce Paige, KK5DO. Click on "P5 North Korea."

Pioneer 10 spacecraft sends last signal

Pioneer 10 spacecraft sends last signal: Talk about weak-signal DX! NASA says that after more than 30 years, it appears the venerable Pioneer 10 spacecraft has sent its last signal to Earth. Pioneer's last, very weak signal was received on January 22. NASA engineers report Pioneer 10's radioisotope power source has decayed, and it may not have enough power to send additional transmissions to Earth. NASA's Deep Space Network (DSN) did not detect a signal during the last contact attempt Febru-

ary 7. The previous three contacts, including the January 22 signal, were very faint with no telemetry received. The last time a Pioneer 10 contact returned telemetry data was last April 27. NASA plans no additional contact attempts for Pioneer 10, which is 7.6 billion miles from Earth. At that distance, it takes more than 11 hours 20 minutes for the radio signal to reach Earth. More information is available on the Pioneer 10 Web page <http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/nmc/tmp/1972-012A.html>.

ARRL Emergency Comm course registration

ARRL Emergency Communications course registration: Registration opens Monday, March 3, 12:01 AM Eastern Time (0500 UTC), for the on-line Level I Emergency Communications course (EC-001). Registration remains open through the March 8-9 weekend or until all available seats have been filled--whichever comes first. Class begins Tuesday, March 18. Thanks to the federal homeland security grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be

reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, approximately 200 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. Senior amateurs are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. A new service now allows those interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) course to be advised via e-mail in advance of registration opportunities. <http://www.arrl.org/cce>

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ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358

New[] Renewal[] Treasurer Use: Date Paid: Amount: Cash[] or Check#

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Type of Application [] Voting \$22 [] Student \$8 [] Family \$2/person(non-voting)

DUES PAID: ARC \$ _____ + FAMILY \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club

QRP Event a Success!

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operate (although we did not get started until 20:00 Z) and everyone made some contacts. The gathering was concluded with a dinner of red beans and rice and "Real Andouille" sausage at the cottage of Pickett, AD4S which is right across the street from Tom. (we are thinking of putting up a shared loop between the 2 cottages).

We used Tom's K2 at 5 watts powered by the internal battery which lasted the entire event. Tom also provided his Code Warrior paddles



Tom, K4TJD, explains Einstein's "Theory of Relativity" to Jack, K5FSE. After about 30 seconds, Jack said "I got it, I got it..!"

and gave a demonstration on the correct installation of a W3EDP (the green wire) long wire antenna. All contacts were made on 20 and 15 meter cw at 5 watts. We used the club call sign of NQ4RP with the gracious permission of Trustee Ken, W4DU.

Pickett AD4S

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MEETING NOTICE March 6, 2003

ARRL EXPRESSES CONCERNS ABOUT HAM RADIO IMPACT OF 70-CM

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facilities." The ARRL also requested the FCC to create "a streamlined procedure for case-by-case exemptions" from the power restrictions.

"It is difficult for ARRL to address the contention of the Army that amateur power in excess of 50 W PEP in the additional protected areas requested by the Army would cause interference to military radiolocation facilities involved in missile tracking," the League said in its comments, "because the claim made by the Army is not substantiated by any technical information." The proposed area would include all of New Mexico and all of Texas west of 104 degrees W

longitude. The ARRL said it was "not intuitively obvious" that such a large restricted area was necessary.

The ARRL concluded that a 50-W power restriction was "not a substantial burden" on many FM repeater users but that it could mean lowering the outputs of some critical repeaters used for emergency and public service work or taking them off the air altogether. It also could affect so-called weak-signal, experimental and Earth-Moon-Earth operations, the ARRL said. More than five dozen repeaters in the affected region could be affected, the League estimated.

Concerning the wind profilers, the

League said it had understood that the National Weather Service--which operates the radars--would notify ARRL of their locations as selected. "Ideally," the League said, "since the amateur repeaters are incumbent in the band now, the National Weather Service should select sites that minimize the effect on those repeaters."

The complete text of the ARRL's comments, the FCC NPRM and other documents are available via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) site <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Click on "Search for Filed Comments" and enter "02-305" in the "Proceeding" field.